

THE MAGAZINE OF UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2008

ACHiEVER



VIEW FROM THE TOP



DEAR FRIEND:

This is an election year, of course, and the papers and evening news are filled with politicians and their promises. They're all well-intentioned, I'm sure, but they won't all deliver.

That's just one of many reasons that I'm proud to be associated with higher education and with UMUC. I don't know of many other enterprises or entities that can promise to increase your earning potential, expand your intellect, broaden your life experience—and *deliver*. And, thanks to UMUC's long history of innovative service to adult students, we can make that promise without demanding that our students put their lives on hold.

In this issue of *Achiever*, you'll meet a number of individuals who used a UMUC education as a springboard to remarkable accomplishments and remarkable lives. You'll meet Russell Knight (pictured on our cover), who used a solid foundation in computer science and English literature as a steppingstone to graduate study at UCLA and his dream job—writing artificial intelligence for space-exploring robots.

You'll meet Patricia Bradshaw, whose years of experience, matched with the tools she developed in UMUC's Master of International Management program, helped propel her to an appointment in the Pentagon as Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy.

You'll read the remarkable story of Reginald Daniel, whose meteoric rise from the streets of Milwaukee, aided by his UMUC degree, led him to become an established entrepreneur, author, and philanthropist—all before he turned 50 years of age.

Finally, you'll meet Paul Tarter, whose scripting skills, honed in UMUC's computer information technology program, helped him become one of only nine programmers worldwide to solve the devilishly hard puzzle in the Microsoft Scripting Guys TechEd Challenge—and earned him bragging rights when, for 24 hours, the Script Center Web site was named after him.

It's all in this issue of *Achiever*. I hope you enjoy it, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the ways that education has enriched *your* life, and I hope you share your own story with us. We'd love to see *you* in the pages of *Achiever* soon!

Sincerely,

SUSAN C. ALDRIDGE, PhD
PRESIDENT
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT

Susan C. Aldridge, PhD

VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS, AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

James Hambright

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chip Cassano

ART DIRECTOR AND PHOTO EDITOR

Cynthia Friedman

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Kate McLoughlin, Allan Zackowitz

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Bill Voltaggio

The *Achiever* is published three times a year by Marketing and Communications at University of Maryland University College, Adelphi, Maryland. Call 240-582-2509 with your comments and suggestions, or send e-mail to ccassano@umuc.edu. University of Maryland University College subscribes to a policy of equal education and employment opportunities.

ECO BOX



PAPER REQUIREMENTS: 15,932 lbs.

Using this combination of papers saves the following:

TREES: 16

TOTAL ENERGY: 11,000,000 BTUs

PURCHASED ENERGY: 4,000,000 BTUs

GREENHOUSE GASES: 1,745 LBS CO₂

WASTEWATER: 5,719 GALLONS

SOLID WASTE: 946 LBS



The spring 2008 *Achiever* text pages are printed on forest-friendly Centura Matt Text and Centura Matt Cover FSC paper.

Environmental impact estimates were made using the Environmental Defense Paper Calculator.

CONTENTS

16



COVER STORY

6 Thinking *Inside* the Box

BY CHIP CASSANO

They might not speak or act much like people—yet—but make no mistake, machines are getting smarter, thanks to the hard work and creativity of men and women like Russell Knight.



NEWS AND UPDATES

- 2 UMUC President Represents U.S. Higher Education in Latin America
- 2 UMUC Hosts 2007 Top 100 MBE Awards Ceremony
- 3 UMUC Offers Classes to Military Personnel in Djibouti
- 4 UMUC Welcomes New Academic Leaders in 2008
- 4 Marine Corps Marathon No Match for English Professor
- 5 UMUC Partners with CyberWATCH Members to Meet Security Needs
- 20 **Class Notes and Faculty Kudos**

FEATURES

10 Puzzling Perfection

BY KATE MCLOUGHLIN

Paul Tarter tackled a scripting challenge—and won.

12 Called to Service

BY CHIP CASSANO

Patricia Bradshaw was looking forward to a quiet retirement cruising the Chesapeake Bay, but first, duty called.

16 Starting at the Finish Line

BY ALLAN ZACKOWITZ

Reginald Daniel let his vision of the future guide his actions in the present.

12





UMUC PRESIDENT CHOSEN TO REPRESENT U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION IN LATIN AMERICA

BY UMUC PUBLIC RELATIONS

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings selected Susan C. Aldridge, PhD, UMUC's president, to join a high-profile delegation of seven other U.S. college and university presidents on a visit to Latin America in August 2007. The delegation discussed the importance of higher education partnerships and cooperation between nations. Aldridge was the only college or university president from Maryland chosen to participate in the initiative.

"The University System of Maryland is an economic engine and center of learning for our state," said Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley. "Building partnerships abroad has become increasingly important to encourage a two-way social, cultural, and academic exchange. I'm deeply honored to have Maryland represented in this vital delegation to make higher education more accessible to the Latin American population."

While in Latin America, the delegation met with students and university, government, and business leaders, carrying the message that the United States welcomes international students and encourages partnerships and exchanges with U.S. postsecondary institutions.

The criteria for choosing candidates for the delegation included the institution's record and interest in international education, its geographic diversity, and the president's ability to act as ambassadors for U.S. higher education as a whole.

"Dr. Aldridge's extensive experience in international affairs makes her an excellent candidate for our trip to Latin America," said Spellings. "She has traveled to more than 100 countries and has established educational programs overseas while working with universities to internationalize their campuses and their curriculum."

The delegation to Latin America is the third high-level delegation of college and university presidents sent to a key world region to promote the value of U.S. higher education and engage in discussions on the future and importance of international collaborations. Last fall, Spellings led the first delegation

(Left to right) UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Farrell, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, U.S. Ambassador to Brazil Clifford Sobel, and U.S. Consulate General to Brazil Thomas White.

to Japan, Korea, and China. Additionally, Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Karen Hughes led a similar group to India earlier this year.

"I was thrilled to be able to serve on this historic delegation," said Aldridge. "Latin American students represent only 12 percent of all international students studying in the United States, and I am eager to help spread the word about the opportunities available in U.S. higher education and at UMUC in particular."

UMUC HOSTS 2007 TOP 100 MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AWARDS

BY KATE MCLOUGHLIN

UMUC hosted the second annual Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Awards ceremony on November 8, 2007, in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs and the Maryland

Chamber of Commerce. The event honored scores of women and minority entrepreneurs in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia who conduct business in Maryland.

UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge took the opportunity to announce a new UMUC Minority Business Enterprise Scholarship Fund that will offer support to deserving students who work for minority-owned businesses.

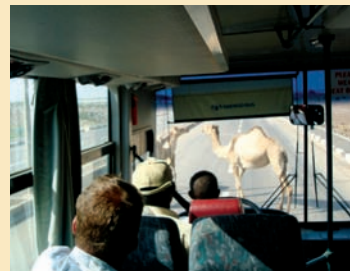
"For Dr. Aldridge to announce the formation of this scholarship is unprecedented," said Sharon Pinder, president and CEO of the Pinder Group and founder of the Top 100 MBE Awards Ceremony. Pinder, herself a graduate of UMUC, served until recently as special secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs.

This year's 100 award recipients were chosen from more than 1,200 nominations submitted from across the region by chambers of commerce, professional



UMUC Graduate Sharon Pinder, CEO of the Pinder Group, former special secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, and founder of the Top 100 MBE Awards.

UMUC OFFERS CLASSES TO MILITARY PERSONNEL IN DJIBOUTI



UMUC Downrange Administrative Director Stephanie Anderson (above) gets acquainted with one representative of the local fauna in Djibouti, Africa.

BY UMUC PUBLIC RELATIONS

In August 2007, UMUC announced that it would begin offering seven courses to military servicemembers stationed at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti, Africa. Aside from a small presence in Egypt, UMUC has not had a substantial presence in Africa since the early 1970s, when American forces were recalled from bases like Wheelus Air Base in Libya.

As of August 2007, there were about 2,400 troops from all branches of the military serving at Camp Lemonier, and as word got around of the new educational offerings available, *Stars and Stripes* reported that the educational services officer on base, Navy Chief Petty Officer Margaret Greer, had been inundated with applications for tuition assistance.

"UMUC has provided higher education to the military for more than 60 years, and we are thrilled to be able to bring education directly to the service members in Djibouti," said Allan Berg, director of UMUC Europe. "The courses we are offering will allow these men and women to enhance their skills in the military, as well as allow them to find jobs after serving."

UMUC initially offered four weekend seminars on computers and three standard classes on mathematics, economics, and computers. One full-time professor and full-time field representative will be teaching the new courses, and UMUC plans to expand the program as demand grows by supplementing current staff with qualified active-duty personnel or contractors who want to share their expertise in specific subject areas.

"The hallmark of our success is our ability to locate faculty and staff in remote locations, establish our operations, and initiate classes within a few months," said UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge. "Our UMUC faculty and staff are excited to support the troops in Africa by providing quality on-site and online courses so that students can continue their education. Thanks to UMUC, these students can start their degrees in Africa and complete them wherever they reside in the world."



Allan Berg (top), director of UMUC Europe, checks out UMUC's offices in Djibouti, Africa. As of August 2007, about 2,400 troops were stationed in Djibouti, and demand for college coursework has been high.

organizations, businesses, and members of the general public. For more about the Top 100 MBE Awards and award recipients, visit www.top100mbe.com.

UMUC WELCOMES NEW ACADEMIC LEADERS IN 2008

BY UMUC PUBLIC RELATIONS

UMUC welcomed three new academic leaders in early 2008 as part of the university's continued efforts to provide high-quality, affordable education to adult students worldwide.

JAMES E. SHERWOOD, PHD, joined UMUC as provost on January 7, 2008, from the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), where he served as special academic assistant to the executive vice chancellor, as well as provost and senior fellow in the Center for Studies in Higher Education. Earlier, he served as dean of University Extension at UC Berkeley. Prior to his tenure at UC Berkeley, Sherwood served in a number of key positions at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, including associate dean in the division of continuing studies and director of the department of distance education.

Sherwood is active in community service and leadership and has won a number of notable awards, including the John L. Christopher Outstanding Leadership Award in 2001 and the Nofflet Williams Educational Telecommunications Leadership Award in 1999. He holds a PhD and MA in history from Pennsylvania



Incoming UMUC Provost James E. Sherwood (center) and his wife, Nanci, met UMUC faculty and staff at a special welcome ceremony December 5, 2007.

State University and a BA, also in history, from Canisius College, in Buffalo, New York.

"Please join me in welcoming Dr. Sherwood to the UMUC community," wrote UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge in a message to UMUC employees. "We strongly believe that his experience and dedication will be valuable assets to our university."

GREGORY VON LEHMEN, PHD, accepted the post of senior vice provost at UMUC, effective January 7, 2008, after first serving as the university's interim vice provost and dean of the School of Undergraduate Studies. Von Lehmen came to UMUC Asia in 2001 from Troy University. He served as UMUC area director for operations in Japan before transferring to the School of Undergraduate Studies stateside, where he first served as senior associate dean.

"With 20 years of experience in higher education, Dr. von Lehmen has become an invaluable member of our UMUC team, energetically supporting UMUC's mission both at home in Maryland and overseas," said Aldridge. "We are thrilled that he has accepted this position."

Von Lehmen holds a PhD in political science and an MPA from the University of Georgia. He earned his BS in economics from Northern Kentucky University.

MARIE CINI, PHD, joined UMUC as vice provost and dean of the School of Undergraduate Studies February 1, 2008, from the City University of Seattle, where she served as associate vice president for academic affairs.

"Dr. Cini has both the academic background and the administrative acumen to further UMUC's mission in adult higher education," said Aldridge. "We strongly believe that her collaborative and results-driven approach will offer strategic direction as we work to fulfill our global vision."

Cini holds a PhD and MS in social psychology from the University of Pittsburgh and an MS in counselor education and BA in arts and sciences from Pennsylvania State University.

MARINE CORPS MARATHON NO MATCH FOR ENGLISH PROFESSOR

BY KATE MCLOUGHLIN

For most people, the thought of running 26.2 miles is daunting enough. But when Matthew Prineas—director of UMUC's undergraduate English program—enters a marathon, he does so with loftier goals. On October 28,

2007, Prineas beat out more than 21,000 other runners to finish in 329th place in the famous Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C.

Prineas, 42, who currently serves as interim assistant to the vice provost in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, finished the 26-mile, 385-yard race with a time of 3:08:46, placing 52nd in his age division.

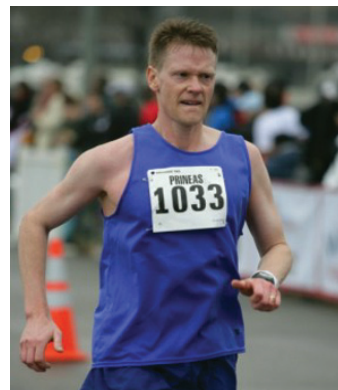
"This was my best over-40 time," said Prineas, who has been running since he was 14 years old and clocked a personal best of 2:39 in the marathon at the age of 17.

In the months leading up to the race, Prineas ran six days a week, logging about 60 miles a week and as many as 20 or 22 miles on some days. He trains with an experienced Montgomery County marathon group.

The secret to running a marathon well, said Prineas, is in setting the right pace.

"In the beginning, the key is holding yourself back," he said. "In my mind, the race doesn't really start until 20 miles."

Prineas ran competitively in high school and college and has continued to train, but only recently returned to running marathons. He ran the 2006 Marine Corps Marathon



UMUC Professor Matthew Prineas on the run in the National Marathon.

and completed the second annual National Marathon—also in Washington, D.C.—in spring 2007. He is currently registered to compete in the Boston Marathon in 2008. One of his goals is to become certified as a running coach, and he encourages anyone in the UMUC community who wants to run a marathon and would like free coaching to contact him by e-mail at mprineas@umuc.edu.

UMUC PARTNERS WITH CYBERWATCH MEMBER INSTITUTIONS TO MEET INFORMATION AND HOMELAND SECURITY NEEDS

BY UMUC PUBLIC RELATIONS

On December 3, 2007, UMUC signed an agreement with three local community colleges—all members of the CyberWATCH consortium—that responds to the growing demand for experts trained in information and homeland security by making it easier for community college graduates to continue their studies in the security field. The agreement is the latest in a series that UMUC has signed with these and other community colleges across Maryland as part of the university's Community College Alliance program, which also provides scholarships to community college graduates.

The three schools—Anne Arundel Community College, The Community College of Baltimore County, and Prince George's Community College—are among 18 Washington, D.C., area colleges and universities (including UMUC)



in the CyberWATCH consortium, whose mission is to improve the security workforce in the region by focusing on curriculum, student, and faculty development. CyberWATCH, an ATE (Advanced Technological Education) Regional Center for security, is funded by a four-year grant from the National Science Foundation and played a pivotal role in the development of the information security programs on the three community college campuses.

"The CyberWATCH consortium offers both our students and our faculty an especially unique opportunity to pursue professional training, share best practices, and access cutting-edge technologies in one of the world's fastest growing and most essential fields," said UMUC President Susan C. Aldridge. "For students, today's agreement will create a solid pipeline for moving seamlessly from an associate's degree to a bachelor's degree in this highly relevant professional field—without losing credits and, for many, without ever leaving home."

Representatives from the National Science Foundation and CyberWATCH joined Aldridge and leaders from Anne Arundel Community College, The Community College of Baltimore County, and Prince George's Community College for the signing ceremony at UMUC's Adelphi, Maryland, headquarters. ♦

CREATIVE. CARING. COMMITTED.

Join the faculty of UMUC—where professionals help students succeed.



As a University of Maryland University College faculty member, you'll help prepare mature, motivated students to become tomorrow's leaders. Teaching at UMUC has a variety of benefits, including

- Part- or full-time positions
- A teaching career that fits into your professional life
- State-of-the-art instructional technologies
- Comprehensive training and support

EOE/F/MC/V. Women and minority applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

To learn more and apply, visit umuc.edu/facultyrecruit

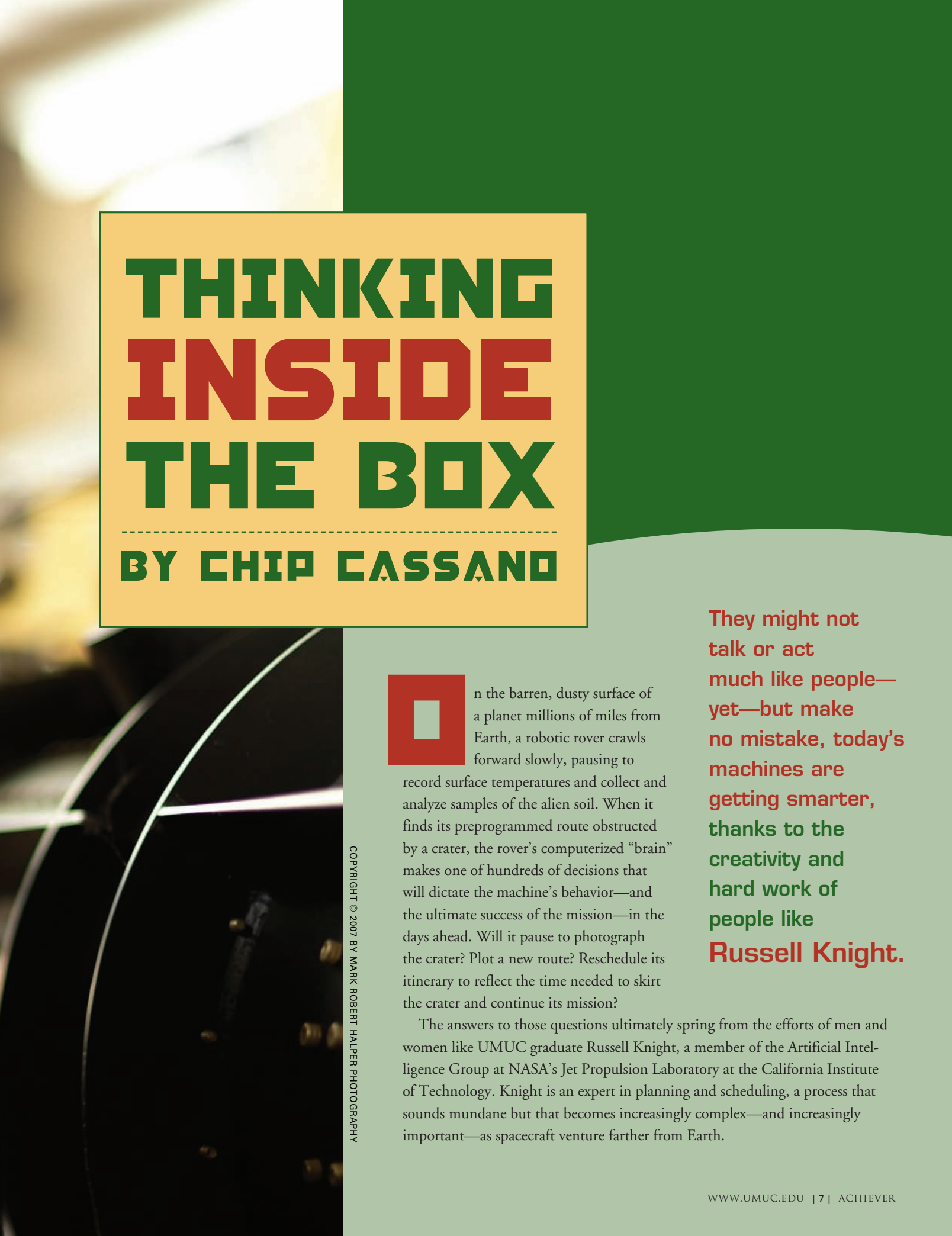


UMUC

University of Maryland University College

Copyright © 2007 University of Maryland University College





THINKING INSIDE THE BOX

BY CHIP CASSANO



On the barren, dusty surface of a planet millions of miles from Earth, a robotic rover crawls forward slowly, pausing to record surface temperatures and collect and analyze samples of the alien soil. When it finds its preprogrammed route obstructed by a crater, the rover's computerized "brain" makes one of hundreds of decisions that will dictate the machine's behavior—and the ultimate success of the mission—in the days ahead. Will it pause to photograph the crater? Plot a new route? Reschedule its itinerary to reflect the time needed to skirt the crater and continue its mission?

The answers to those questions ultimately spring from the efforts of men and women like UMUC graduate Russell Knight, a member of the Artificial Intelligence Group at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology. Knight is an expert in planning and scheduling, a process that sounds mundane but that becomes increasingly complex—and increasingly important—as spacecraft venture farther from Earth.

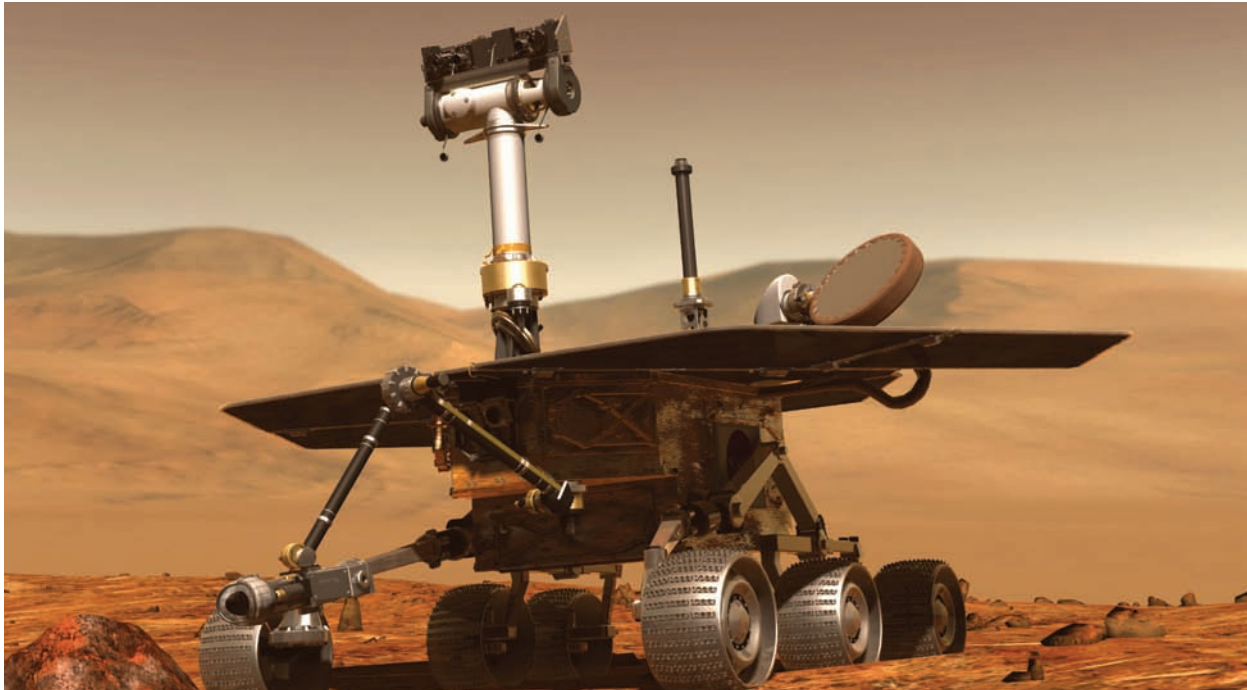
They might not talk or act much like people—yet—but make no mistake, today's machines are getting smarter, thanks to the creativity and hard work of people like **Russell Knight.**

COPYRIGHT © 2007 BY MARK ROBERT HALPER PHOTOGRAPHY

“This is my fantasy job— writing artificial

“Suppose you have a spacecraft orbiting Jupiter’s moon Io,” said Knight. “Scientists want to record anything unusual that happens, so of course you could just direct the craft to take images of the entire planet, but you can’t afford that in terms of bandwidth on the deep-space network. So we have to prioritize. We just don’t have enough space to send all those bits back to Earth.”

Direct control of the craft is equally impractical. Even traveling at the speed of light, a radio command from Earth takes more than two minutes just to reach Venus, our nearest planetary neighbor—and that’s when their orbits bring the two planets closest together. If researchers want a spacecraft to respond to



COURTESY NASA/JPL-CALTECH

LEFT: Earth Observing 1 provides researchers with a unique perspective on the world, like this image of the 2003 wildfires north of Tucson, Arizona.

ABOVE: Craft like the Mars Rover pictured here operate outside the practical range of remote control, so their success depends on artificial intelligence. **ABOVE RIGHT:** An expended solid rocket motor falls away as a Delta II launch vehicle propels the rover into space.

short-term events, that spacecraft will have to be able to “think for itself.” And that’s where Knight comes in.

“This is my fantasy job—writing artificial intelligence for space-exploring robots,” said Knight, who admits that he only learned math as a youngster so that he could draw lines on a computer. “I loved computer games growing up, and I was always interested in artificial intelligence—mostly because I read science fiction, which sparked my imagination and made me wonder about thought and intelligence. So this was a nice combination of things that fascinated me, things I really enjoyed.”

It’s not the sort of field that one enters on a whim, though. For Knight, the fantasy started to become a reality at UMUC, where he took his first formal classes in computer science

intelligence for space-exploring robots”

while serving as a military policeman in the U.S. Army. While stationed overseas in Heidelberg, Germany, and at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe), Belgium, Knight taught himself to work on computers, receiving clearance to take a part-time job repairing computer printers. That led to a full-time position with the Eaton Corporation when Knight’s tour of duty ended and, with an eye toward advancing his career, Knight completed his bachelor’s degree in computer science at UMUC in 1994.

In terms of education, that was just the beginning. Knight returned to the United States and enrolled in a graduate program

nician requested, the program would evaluate inventory, generate a pick list of components that were currently in stock, and recommend a configuration that used those components and delivered a machine with the necessary capabilities.

That sort of practical application helps explain why artificial intelligence continues to evolve—although not, perhaps, in quite the same dramatic ways that science fiction might lead us to expect. We aren’t surrounded by robots that sound and act like humans, but artificial intelligence is all around us nonetheless—plotting out driving directions, dialing cell phones in response to our spoken commands, even ferreting out credit card fraud.

“You’re not likely to find someone building a single, completely intelligent machine with all the different capabilities, because most of the time people develop artificial intelligence in response to very specific needs,” said Knight. “Those needs drive organizations to spend money on research, and that’s how the work is done and advances are made.”

That aspect of the research process is so important, in fact, that Knight credits another facet of his UMUC education—a secondary concentration in English literature—as being critical to his success.

“This might be surprising, but to succeed in this field, you really have to be a good writer,” said Knight. “A primary component of my job is coming up with an idea, writing what is called a white paper, and going to conferences and meetings to present that paper to people who fund research and missions.”

If the idea resonates, a call for proposals goes out, and Knight responds to that, as well. If it’s successful, then and only then will Knight and his colleagues receive the money needed to begin the work of designing and coding the software.

It can be a grueling process, and Knight says that one other quality is necessary in someone who hopes to succeed in the field.

“There are a lot of people who have computer skills and writing skills,” said Knight, “but they won’t succeed as researchers unless they’re creative. They need the creative bent and work ethic that will keep them up all night with an idea. It’s that sort of madman creativity that keeps me going and helps fuel my research career.”

It doesn’t leave much time for outside interests, but that’s all right with Knight. He and his wife—Kathleen Hand, also a UMUC graduate, whom Knight met overseas—recently had their first child.

“My daughter, Cassidy, was born last year, and I love her, so I guess you could say that she’s my hobby right now,” said Knight, laughing. ♦



at UCLA, earning his master’s degree in 1999. Six years later, he added a PhD to his résumé—also from UCLA and also in computer science. His doctoral research dealt, in part, with planning, scheduling, and operations research.

“That’s my particular specialty—figuring out plans that achieve your goals within your resource bounds,” said Knight. “That’s important for automated spacecraft, but it’s also important in logistics planning for just about any company or military effort that you care to name.”

In fact, one of Knight’s first forays into artificial intelligence had nothing to do with spacecraft. Working for GTE Government Systems, he designed a program that processed computer hardware requests from field technicians. Based on the capabilities the tech-

For more about Russell Knight, his professional accomplishments, and his publications, visit ai.jpl.nasa.gov/public/home/knight.

PUZZLING

A UMUC computer information technology student unlocks a 140-character code—and the key to Microsoft's TechEd Challenge.

Per

UMUC student Paul Tarter solved a puzzle this summer that would likely make even a statistician cringe.

The challenge was this: Given 140 spaces and a list of 140 letters, determine which of the words in a 95-word list contain the exact number of letters on the letter list while filling the 140 spaces perfectly.

For Tarter, the puzzle was more than just a challenge—it was a chance for him to show off his programming talents.

That's exactly what the undergraduate computer information technology (CMIT) student did when he became one of just nine scriptwriters in the world to solve the puzzle and receive a perfect score in the Microsoft Scripting Guys TechEd Challenge.

"They really didn't think anyone was going to solve it to that extent," said Tarter, who lives in Brooklyn, Maryland, and hopes to eventually earn a Master of Science in information assurance.

His prize for accomplishing the feat? Bragging rights, a bobblehead doll, a tee shirt, and a puzzle book—all courtesy of Microsoft—along with the

honor of having the company's online script center named after him for one day on August 17, 2007. His solution to the puzzle also appeared on the script center's Web site.

"The Web site was definitely awesome," Tarter said.

More important, he said, were the fun he had and the experience he gained in scripting to solve the puzzle.

"I enjoyed [analyzing] the puzzle and adding rule sets to attack it," he said. "I like the challenge of [puzzles] and the accomplishment of finishing them."

Scripting refers to a specific type of computer programming. Scripts run directly from code written by the scripter in any of the several scripting languages. Rather than building applications, scripts typically are used to retrieve information from a computer.

Tarter, who works for the U.S. Army in information security, learned about the challenge just 17 days before entries were due. He started working right away, scripting in a program called Perl.

"I mainly used [Perl] because you can use it on both platforms—both Windows and Linux," he said. "It was the easiest to write it in, and it ran most quickly."

Tarter said he also used Perl because of the nature of the pro-



Paul Tarter's interest in computers stretches back to childhood, and led to his recent triumph in the Microsoft Scripting Guys TechEd Challenge.



fection

BY KATE MCLOUGHLIN

gram; it was designed as a versatile tool to go into files and retrieve information. People added onto the program, Tarter said, and it became more and more versatile.

While tackling the puzzle, Tarter said he found his UMUC courses in ethical hacking and Perl programming useful—particularly the coursework focused on brute force and automated random guess password-cracking and programming. He also used the puzzle as the subject of a term paper he wrote in his CMIT course.

Tarter said he became interested in programming and scripting when he was working several years ago.

"I started about seven or eight years ago, just doing system administration jobs," he said. "A lot of times you do the same task over and over and over. So I found ways to write code that would do that stuff for you."

Since then, he's been drawn to creating shortcuts.

"At work, you can always find me scripting away at my computer, trying to find a new way to make life easier," he said.

Tarter tackled his next scripting challenge when TechEd Europe released its most recent challenge late in 2007. Now he's set his sights on more competitions leading up to the Microsoft Scripting Guys TechEd Challenge 2008.

"I'm looking forward to it," he said. ♦

Just when
Patricia S. Bradshaw
was starting to
look forward to
retirement, duty
called, and she
took on her most
challenging role yet.

Called to Service

BY CHIP CASSANO

In 2005, UMUC graduate Patricia S. Bradshaw was looking forward to retirement—and looking for a boat. That seemed fitting, somehow, given that she'd started her career in public service almost 30 years before at the Department of the Navy and that her husband was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. When the couple placed a bid on a power cruiser, it seemed that their dream of a quiet retirement spent exploring the inland waterway and Maryland's Chesapeake Bay might finally come true.

But life had a few surprises left for Bradshaw, and a short while later she got official word that she would be offered an appointment as Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy in the Pentagon, which involves a customer base of more than 800,000 civilian employees.

"We owned our boat for about 24 hours," said Bradshaw, "and then we got confirmation of the offer, and I had to ask, 'So, what am I going to stop doing in order to take this on?'"





To help her understand the challenges and needs of civilian personnel serving in Iraq, Patricia Bradshaw spent a week there last year.

An Opportunity I Couldn't Pass Up

While the position wasn't one that Bradshaw had been seeking, it was really no surprise that she should be called to fill it. Six years earlier, she had retired from the federal government after 27 years of service, having headed up one of the largest human resource offices in the Department of the Navy. From there, she had made the jump to the private sector, serving as deputy chief of human resources for a large information technology company in northern Virginia and president of a small consulting firm. Her résumé was impeccable.

However, like many UMUC graduates, the path that brought Bradshaw to her current position had its share of twists and turns. In fact, she'd started her education with the intent of being a high school language teacher, and she earned her degree in German secondary education from the University of Maryland, College Park, in the town where she grew up. Unfortunately, after graduating, she found herself entering the job market in the early 1970s, when language studies were being phased out of curricula nationwide.

"We went through a period in this country where I think we lost some of our appreciation for the value of cultural awareness and sensitivity," said Bradshaw. "We became quite insular, even isolated, and support for language programs faltered."

Nearly a year passed before she finally landed a position teaching English and German in an inner city school in Balti-

more, Maryland. It wasn't the experience she had hoped for, and Bradshaw began searching, once again, for her niche—one that would put to use her background in education. She found it at the Department of the Navy, where she took a position as an education and training specialist.

"They had a formal human resources program—back then we called it civilian personnel—with a very robust training program," said Bradshaw. "So I got into that field, and my career took off from there."

As she advanced professionally, aided by the Navy's training program, Bradshaw often thought about furthering her formal education, but found herself hesitant to enroll. While many academic programs offered a strong foundation in global policy issues, Bradshaw was more interested in global business management that recognized the necessary emphasis on cultural management and valuing diversity. So when she stumbled on UMUC's fledgling Master of International Management degree program, in 1995, she was immediately intrigued.

"When I reviewed the curriculum, I realized that it was focused on understanding the global community," said Bradshaw. With the European Union in its infancy and growing quickly, it seemed obvious that the ability to lead and manage in a multicultural environment would only become more important as time passed.

There were other things that made the UMUC master's program attractive. Bradshaw was recently widowed, so not only was she now a senior executive at the Department of the Navy, but she was raising two children alone.

“What was nice about UMUC was that it was geared toward the adult learner who has to continue working full-time and needs a program that offers that level of flexibility,” said Bradshaw. “The program was still pretty aggressive, but I knew from the start that I would have no life for 18 months, and I felt like this was an opportunity that I couldn’t pass up.”

Just a Little Bit Busy

Bradshaw has never had reason to regret her decision. When she left public service for the private sector in 1999, she turned to her international finance book for perspective on how to treat human resources as an investment—as one must in a for-profit setting—rather than simply as an expense. And in her current role, which she assumed in January 2006, her grasp of international management remains integral to her success.

“If you think of the Department of Defense as a corporation, my office is part of the corporate core,” said Bradshaw.

“We help set the overarching policies for the entire personnel lifecycle—policies on hiring, on development and training, and to some degree, on pay and benefits. Those policies govern U.S. citizens who work for the Department of Defense globally, wherever we have a U.S. military presence, but we also develop policies that govern the employment of the local national citizens that we hire to work for us, whether it’s in Germany, Korea, Japan, Italy, or Spain.”

Her office has also taken the lead in creating opportunities for civilians to aid in the rebuilding effort in Iraq by serving on the ground in what are termed Provincial Reconstruction Teams—advising on women’s issues, agricultural issues, the rule of law, and more as efforts continue to help Iraqis redevelop and rebuild their country. And that’s in addition to Bradshaw’s involvement in the rollout of a brand new personnel system—the National Security Personnel System—that allows a greater degree of pay and recruiting flexibility across the Department of Defense while creating a completely new executive leadership framework.

When a new administration ushers in her replacement,

perhaps Bradshaw and her husband will have time to rekindle their dreams of cruising the Chesapeake. Until then, she has more than enough to hold her attention.

“I’m just a little bit busy,” Bradshaw said, laughing, “but this is exciting stuff. That’s part of the joy of being invited back to be part of this administration and to be here at this very pivotal time for the Department of Defense, as we work to provide a civilian workforce that is more agile, flexible, and expeditionary.”

Last May, UMUC’s International Management (IMAN) Chapter of the Alumni Association named Patricia Bradshaw its distinguished alumna of 2007. For more about her career and responsibilities, visit www.defenselink.mil/prhome/cppbradshaw.html. ♦

“What was nice about UMUC was that it was geared toward the adult learner who has to continue working full-time and needs a program that offers that level of flexibility.”



BY ALLAN ZACKOWITZ

Reginald Daniel
has lived a
remarkable life
by letting his
vision of the
future guide his
actions in the
present.

L

ooking at Reginald Daniel today—not yet 50 years of age and already established as a successful entrepreneur, author, and philanthropist—it’s hard to believe that he found his inspiration in a sitcom. But it wasn’t easy finding positive role models on the streets of Milwaukee in 1970, so 12-year-old Daniel turned away from his neighborhood and looked to television instead.

“I had a vision in my heart and my head that didn’t reconcile with what I saw around me,” Daniel said. “Only Darren Stevens on *Bewitched* made sense to me—going off to the office and doing deals.”

Modeling himself after that fictional advertising executive was just the first in a series of steps that would allow Daniel to retire at age 44 and dedicate his time and energy to trying to make the world better for kids raised in poverty who face many of the same obstacles he did growing up.

“At 17 or 18 I was working at J. C. Penney and met a guy selling roller skates,” Daniel said. “That was more tangible for me than what Darren Stevens did. So I talked with him and asked what he did to prepare for his job. He told me that to find limitless income



COPYRIGHT © 2007 BY KATHERINE LAMBERT PHOTOGRAPHY

STARTING



AT THE

FINISH LINE

“My objective was to write a race neutral and socioeconomically neutral series, using my life as an example, for kids who may be going the wrong direction in life.”

potential, I should go to college, major in marketing, and find something I could sell. Everything else was a way to refine what I did from that point on.”

Of course, going to college wouldn't be easy for a teenager earning minimum wage without many prospects for advancement. But once again, Daniel focused on where he wanted to be and found a solution. A television commercial explained how he could earn money for college by joining the military. So, in 1979, Daniel enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. It would prove to be another important step on his pathway to success.

He had just turned 20 and, although he had never worked with a computer before, he was assigned as a communications analyst and put to work on a classified project using a \$20 million Cray supercomputer at the U.S. Department of Defense. Though he lacked experience, Daniel had always been interested in technology, and he was eager to learn.

“I heard about UMUC while in the military. There were lots of signs around base, and a career counselor recommended it,” Daniel said. He started working on his bachelor's degree in computer science while still enlisted, then used Veteran's Education Assistance benefits to finish up after his discharge. He took his classes evenings and weekends on-site at Fort Meade, Maryland, where he was stationed.

Daniel's UMUC coursework provided him with the technical knowledge he needed, along with a deeper understanding of the career concepts he had been exploring while in the military.

“My Introduction to Marketing instructor said to just find a need and fill it. That simplified marketing on a professional level for me,” Daniel said, adding that most UMUC courses were “taught by people typically working in the field, so I felt comfortable challenging them. That's how I got answers to some tough questions.”

Though he'd gotten a late start on his college education, Daniel views it as an advantage, and pointed out that “people able to get an education as adults are pretty fortunate. You can

architect your curriculum around your career and your life.

Every course can have meaning. I saw the early trends and every course I took was chosen to help me become the best computer salesman I could be.”

Daniel's hard work paid off. He stayed in the Baltimore–Washington area after finishing his tour of duty with the Air Force, worked for several years in computer sales, and soon distinguished himself as a top-earning salesman for a computer graphics firm.

By 1996, he was ready to make another bold move. Using money he had been able to save while the military paid his UMUC tuition, he established his own company with three employees, working out of the basement of his own home.

Scientific Engineering Solutions, Inc. (SES) was an immediate success, growing an average of 35 percent each year and becoming a leading provider of information technology solutions to the nation's defense and intelligence communities. Under Daniel's leadership, SES competed against industry giants for worldwide business, winning more than \$200 million in contracts. Along the way, the company was named to the prestigious Deloitte & Touche Fast 500/Fast 50 list and the Inc. 500 list. In 2001, Daniel was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the National Black Chamber of Commerce, and Ernst & Young named him IT Consulting Entrepreneur of the Year for the state of Maryland.

By 2002, SES had grown to 160 employees with \$21 million in annual revenue, and Daniel had a roadmap in place for reaching \$100 million in revenue within three or four years. He wasn't afraid to challenge “standard business practices” and—based on his own experience using life-planning and business-planning strategies—threw out performance appraisals at SES, replacing them with a five-year life planning and development tool that allowed him to better understand each employee's personal goals.

“One of the things I'm most proud about,” Daniel said, “is that SES spawned about nine other companies founded by SES employees who were nurtured and encouraged by that environment.”

Daniel also used the leverage provided by SES to give back to the community, partnering with Marcus Johnson—a popular Washington-area jazz musician—to open technology training centers for children in several local churches. SES donated the computers and SES employees trained church members to teach children how to use the computers.

Early on, Reginald Daniel recognized that his own priorities centered around his family and the freedom to spend more time with them.





“One of the things I’m most proud about,” Daniel said, “is that SES spawned about nine other companies founded by SES employees who were nurtured and encouraged by that environment.”



“I didn’t have time to adequately develop a nonprofit entity,” said Daniel, “but a little seed was planted.”

At the same time, though, Daniel maintained his focus on his goals; he realized that his own priorities centered around his family and spending more time with them. So he positioned SES to sell and got ready to retire. He was 44.

After the sale of SES, Daniel had enough money to do as he pleased and the luxury of spending as much time as he wanted with his family.

“That opportunity . . . may not come twice in a lifetime, and I took it seriously,” Daniel said. “At some point you have to say, ‘This is enough money’—to say, ‘I can now help others.’”

“When I left Milwaukee, one pledge I made was that I would give my family the opportunity to escape the cycle of poverty. I realized that it hurt me to leave. I had 40 cousins, and I’m the first to graduate college.”

So Daniel has turned his attention to helping those around him. After selling SES, he established a program that worked with state and local government offices to “identify kids that would likely go to prison and intervene in their lives to make sure they [are] contributing to society, rather than taking away from it by being in prison,” Daniel said.

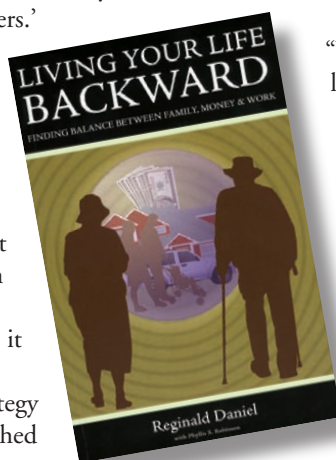
More recently, he has focused on sharing the strategy that helped shape his own life, and in 2006 he published

Living Your Life Backward: Finding Balance Between Family, Money & Work (King & Queen Publishing, 2006).

“My objective was to write a race neutral and socioeconomically neutral series, using my life as an example, for kids who may be going the wrong direction in life,” said Daniel. The book—which looks at money, establishing priorities, and the different ways a person can measure success—has proven popular with adults as well as teens, and Daniel has been busy traveling the country, addressing schools and holding public book signings where he takes every opportunity to share the wealth of his own life experience.

“I’m a truly spiritual person,” Daniel concluded. “When I was 40, I believe I found my purpose in life—to receive blessings and pass them on to as many people as possible.”

Reginald Daniel’s book, *Living Your Life Backward*, is available from major booksellers. For more about Daniel and his current activities, visit www.livingyourlifebackward.com. ♦



Reginald Daniel with President Bill Clinton (top left), Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski (above left), and best-selling author and lecturer Stephen Covey (above right).

CLASS NOTES

1980s

Paul Mickus '87

Bristow, Virginia, graduated from UMUC's Munich campus and went on to attend the University of Maryland, College Park, where he earned a BS in advertising design.

Joyce Lima '89

Glen Burnie, Maryland, began 2007 as a retiree after completing more than 28 years of full-time employment with Maryland state government, working in accounting, finance management, and human resource management. Before that, she worked for more than 11 years with the former Maryland National Bank. She wrote, "My UMUC degree was instrumental in my successful career transition from accounting and finance to human resource management. Retirement offers an opportunity for me to focus my attention on my personal goal of becoming a professional trainer and motivational speaker."

1990s

Carmen Minjarez Michalakakis '90

San Marcos, Texas, attended the New Mexico School of Law and advanced in her federal government career. She is now happily retired and living in her home state of Texas.

Patricia "Tricia" Kenney-O'Reilly '92

College Park, Maryland, earned her CPA license in 1994. She has worked at the University of Maryland, College Park, since 2000 as an accountant in the bursar's office. She also operates her own tax practice on the side.

Mary McCartin Wearn '92

Macon, Georgia, serves as assistant professor of English at Macon State College. She recently published her first book, *Negotiating Motherhood in Nineteenth-Century American Literature* (Routledge, 2007), which examines conventional and countercultural maternal

figures in literature and articulates the critical debate about family, womanhood, and motherhood that was waged in the heart of the sentimental era and reverberates in American culture to this day.

Yair Levy '94

Tel Aviv, Israel, wrote to report that he enjoyed his time in the United States and is now living in Israel, where he works for Hewlett Packard.

Jeffrey "Jay" Young '96

Washington, D.C., recently published his first book, *Are You Ineffective?* (AuthorHouse, 2007). Young has served in senior executive positions for the past 10 years and currently serves as chief operating officer for the D.C. Lottery. As an experienced corporate attorney, Young specializes in strategic development, business planning, operations, and value chain management. He publishes a blog for private company executives at www.cxothoughts.com and frequently makes presentations to industry groups across the country.

L. Gaye Hirz '99

Delray Beach, Florida, retired from the U.S. Postal Service in January 2006 following 34 years of federal service. After some time off, Hirz plans on seeking work in event management and domestic and international marketing consulting.

2000s

Wilma Brockington '02

Baltimore, Maryland, recently published her first novel, *Cinnamon Girl Blues*, which is available on her Web site, www.wilmabrockington.com.

Maria Ialacci '03

Arlington, Virginia, has been working as a litigation support paralegal for Compliance, Inc., since June 2007.

Jeanine Powell Weems '03

Burlington, North Carolina, is attending Dallas Baptist University to earn her Master of Education. After earning her bachelor's degree from UMUC, she went on to earn her Master of Arts in management at Regent University. She currently teaches information technology courses at Alamance Community College.



James N. Robinson '94

Laurel, Maryland, assistant director of life safety systems for the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), received the Distinguished Service to Safety Award from the National Safety Council (NSC) at the organization's 95th Annual Congress and Expo, October 15–17, 2007, in Chicago, Illinois. The award is the highest honor bestowed on an individual safety professional by the NSC in recognition of outstanding service to the field of safety.

"The Distinguished Service to Safety Award, which symbolizes and recognizes individual innovation and service in the field of safety, is among the ways the National Safety Council honors individuals who

take a lead in creating initiatives that support and promote a corporate culture of safety," said NSC President and CEO Alan C. McMillan. "Mr. Robinson understands today's issues and has made tremendous contributions. We are honored to present him with this award."

Robinson has served for more than 30 years as a leader in fire safety at UMCP. When he joined the staff, automatic sprinklers protected only 2 percent of the campus; today, that figure has increased to 80 percent. He has helped improve the level of fire safety for students, faculty, and staff through fire safety education programs and improvements to automatic suppression and alarm systems.

Robinson has also been an active member of NSC for more than 20 years, participating on the Board of Delegates in the Transportation and Workplace Venues, sitting on the editorial advisory board for *Safety and Health Magazine*, and serving as chair, vice chair, and member-at-large on several committees overseeing campus safety, health, and environmental management.

The NSC was founded in 1913 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1953 to promote safety and health in the workplace, in transportation, and in homes and communities. NSC counts more than 50,000 businesses, labor organizations, schools, public agencies, private groups, and individuals among its membership.

Kathleen Sobeck '04

River Edge, New Jersey, is the technology integration specialist for a large public school district in northern New Jersey. She wrote, "Translated, that means I teach the teachers how to use and integrate technology in their classrooms, and I bring technology projects into the elementary classes. There are six elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school, so I travel around. I truly believe that technology can enhance education, so this is my passion. After earning my master's degree online from UMUC, I can't see myself ever sitting in a traditional classroom again. I'm now earning advanced certification—online, of course."

Faith Thomas '04

Mount Vernon, Washington, wrote, "I received a Master of Science in integrated marketing communication from West Virginia University. UMUC prepared me well for advanced studies in an online format."

Clivette Tamika Jones '05

Greenbelt, Maryland, wrote, "I completed the dual Master of Science in management/MBA degree program while working at my full-time job. The training and knowledge I gained from UMUC has complemented and enhanced my social and professional skills."

Fawn Brunson '06

Baltimore, Maryland, taught for 16 years in K-5. During that time, she served as grade level chairperson, school improvement team chairperson, and technology coordinator. Currently, she serves as technology integration analyst for the Baltimore City public school system, where she helps teachers and administrators integrate technology into their classrooms and school environments. She wrote, "I feel very fortunate to work in a profession that gives me the opportunity to infuse the two passions of my life—technology and education—and, in addition, helps me prepare all educational stakeholders for the 21st-century information age."

Dean Holmes '06

Baltimore, Maryland, is senior vice president of operations for Berkshire Property Advisors, a national owner and operator of apartment communities. He is currently

Your generosity will help create a brighter future.



Your donation makes the difference.

Help give motivated students around the world the opportunity to advance in their careers and become leaders of tomorrow.

Your generous support can help UMUC

- Provide scholarship aid to deserving students
- Develop innovative programs
- Invest in a technology infrastructure that enriches our online course program

Three easy ways to make a tax-deductible contribution to UMUC

1. Visit umuc.edu/donate
2. Call 240-684-5100 or 800-888-UMUC
3. Return the enclosed reply envelope



UMUC

University of Maryland University College

Copyright © 2007 University of Maryland University College

CLASS NOTES

enrolled in UMUC's Graduate School of Management and Technology, pursuing dual degrees—an MS in management and an MBA. He wrote, "My professional life involves significant travel, but the flexibility of UMUC's programs allows me to pursue my professional and academic goals at the same time."

Patricia Pennini '06

Chesapeake Beach, Maryland, wrote, "Earning my BS in human resource management from UMUC has opened many doors in my career

field. I was able to reach my educational goals through traditional classroom settings and the online environment. The undergraduate program was both enlightening and challenging for me. I'm looking forward to the next step—in the not-too-distant future—of earning a graduate degree from UMUC."

Kimberley Raymond '06

Washington, D.C., wrote that she liked having the option of taking classes either online or face-to-face at UMUC and that her stud-

ies gave her the confidence to start her own business, Kim Raymond Concierge Services (www.KRconcierge.com).

Brian Smith '06

Varese, Italy, wrote, "The same month that I graduated from UMUC, I had an interview with the largest helicopter manufacturer in the world. In September 2006, I began a new adventure in Italy as the head of aviation training for AgustaWestland Helicopters. This company is currently doing more than \$5 billion in business per year. The combination of my previous experience coupled with the education I received at UMUC is what clinched the position for me. I almost feel like I've won the lottery with how well all the hard work has finally paid off! This new position is giving me valuable experience working in international markets and I'm making important contacts around the world. I can't possibly think of a better way to close out my undergraduate work at UMUC."

Crystal Wroten '06

Lusby, Maryland, reported that, on May 9, 2006, she gave birth to a son, Andrew Dean Wroten, during her spring semester at UMUC. She wrote, "Professor Goodale was nice enough to extend my exam date and told me to take as long as I needed to recover. This reinforced my opinion that UMUC is an institution that truly cares about its students."

Melissa Ayres '07

Abingdon, Maryland, reported that she began Towson University's graduate program in professional writing in August 2007. She wrote, "It will be a change to have to be on campus for classes. I loved UMUC's online format!"

Emery Rudolph '07

Owings Mills, Maryland, wrote, "It seems that I have been involved with information technology for ages, but in reality it's only been 15 years. I am a senior UNIX engineer working in higher education. After many years in the private sector, I have settled into the arena where I always thought I was destined to be. I really love working in higher education and feel that I am contributing to the greater good by helping others reach their goals through education."

YOUR CAREER HERE.

UMUC—connecting you to a quality education

Every day, UMUC connects students to higher education the world over. From local on-site classes to award-winning online programs, UMUC is recognized as a global leader in education, serving 90,000 undergraduate and graduate students worldwide. At UMUC, you can choose more . . .

- More than 90 online undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs
- More than 20 on-site classroom locations throughout the D.C. metro area
- More than 150 locations worldwide
- More resources and student services on-site and online

**Let UMUC bring higher education into your world—
and connect you to the entire world.**

Call 800-888-UMUC or visit umuc.edu



Copyright © 2007 University of Maryland University College

FACULTY KUDOS

THOMAS BAILEY, director of psychology in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, was invited to present a leadership paper, entitled "Building Buy-in: Working with DE Faculty from a Distance," at the annual Kansas State University Academic Chairpersons Conference in Orlando, Florida, February 8, 2008.

JAMES M. GLASS, who teaches political science and government in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, won the 2007 Kirwan Undergraduate Education Award from the University of Maryland, College Park, where he also serves as a professor and director of the College Park Scholars International Studies Program. Previously, he won the 2002–03 Distinguished Scholar-Teacher award and in 2004 was named the Maryland Association of Higher Education's Outstanding Faculty of the Year.

MICHAEL J. KOPANIC JR., who teaches history in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, served as co-editor (with Steven G. Potach) and lead translator of Konstantin Culen's 1942 two-volume work, *Dejiny Slovákov v Amerike*, which was reissued in English as *The History of Slovaks in America* (Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, 2007).

MARK LANDAHL, head of the homeland security section of the Frederick County, Maryland, Sheriff's Office, and

a faculty member in business and professional programs at UMUC, published an article entitled "Identity Crisis: Defining the Problem and Framing a Solution for Terrorism Incident Response" in the September 2007 issue of *Homeland Security Affairs*. You can read the article online at www.hsaj.org/?fullarticle=3.3.5.

DEBRA MCLAUGHLIN, director of science, and **THOMAS BAILEY**, director of psychology—both in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies—were invited to make a presentation, entitled "Embedded Assessment Activities: Integrating Assessment and Learning," in Boston, Massachusetts, at the annual Eastern Psychological Association meeting, March 13–16, 2008.

JEFFREY T. TEST, who teaches computer information systems and technology courses for UMUC, recently published *Surviving the Next Database Disaster* (VDM Verlag Dr. Mueller e.K., 2007).

GARY E. WEIR, chief historian for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and a member of the history faculty in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, was invited to serve as the keynote speaker at the Military and Oral History Conference: Between Memory and History, hosted by the University of Victoria, in British Columbia, Canada, February 20–23, 2008.

WILLIAM SONDERVAN, director of criminal justice and forensic investigations in UMUC's School of Undergraduate Studies, received the National Law and Order Individual Award from the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) on December 15, 2007. The award recognized Sondervan's years of distinguished service in the mili-

tary, as deputy commissioner in the Maryland Division of Correction, and as director of professional development in the American Correctional Association. Pictured here, from left to right, are Col. Bert Rice, past commander in chief of MOWW; Sondervan's wife, Nancy; Sondervan; Col. James D. Elmer, national commander in chief of MOWW; and Col. Gorham Black, commander of the Fort Meade chapter of MOWW. In this photo, Sondervan is presented with the MOWW "Scales of Justice" award, which is emblematic of the National Law and Order Award.



STAY CONNECTED



University of Maryland University College
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Your resource for personal and professional development

IT'S FREE! Membership in the UMUC Alumni Association is FREE and OPEN to all UMUC alumni. To activate your FREE MEMBERSHIP, visit www.umuconnect.org today!

You'll enjoy invitations to personal and professional development programs, opportunities to meet and mingle with fellow alumni, and access to a variety of career-enhancing resources through Career Services.



The tips, testimony, and networking opportunities offered at the UMUC Alumni Association's Career and Life

Planning Seminar really made a change in the way I look at a job interview.

The facilitators were really motivated. One spoke about making opportunities and becoming a change agent instead of waiting for something to fall into your lap. His comments really hit home. Another facilitator encouraged people to speak during a job interview as if they already had the job. For me, positive thinking and speaking, and expressing confidence with my body language, were key to a successful interview.

Since attending the association's Career and Life Planning Seminar, I have accepted a position with the Department of Justice as an information technology specialist. I just wanted to thank the Alumni Association.

KENRIC BARCLAY '05
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

1 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2008 WOMEN'S CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Jump-start your career at the 2008 Women's Career Development Conference, Saturday, March 29, 2008, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m., at the UMUC Inn and Conference Center. Learn to effectively navigate today's dynamic workplace and increase your chances for career advancement and success. To register, visit www.umuc.edu/careerwomen.

EXECUTIVE COACHING THROUGH THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Experience a professional development opportunity through UMUC's National Leadership Institute (NLI). Designed just for UMUC alumni, this special offering is the opportunity to jump-start your leadership development path. Alumni who register benefit from a 90-minute **one-on-one** executive coaching session with an NLI coach. Highly credentialed and experienced, the coach uses data from a 360-assessment instrument to help you better use and understand special strengths and developmental needs. UMUC alumni are entitled to a special discount. For more information, visit www.umuc.edu/nli or call 301-985-7195. Registration deadline is April 7, 2008.

SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT!

Order your UMUC gear—online!

UMUC alumni receive a 10 percent discount. So whether you want a stylish polo, a backpack, or a UMUC teddy bear, you'll save on your entire order.

Enter discount code 08UG02 at checkout.

Visit <https://www.umuc.edu/umucgear>, and start letting everyone know that you're proud to be a UMUC alum.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING: **Thursday, June 26, 2008**

in the UMUC Inn and Conference Center, Chesapeake Room

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

2 CAREER CONNECTIONS

NEW! INTRODUCING THE "VIRTUAL JOB INTERVIEW"

The virtual job interview is a simulation of a conversation between you—the job candidate—and an interviewer. Practice your interviewing skills today! Visit www.umuc.edu/careerservices and click on "Career Center" to participate in a virtual job interview.

7 STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL MILITARY TRANSITION

By UMUC Alumni Association President Kirk Clear

- 1 Prepare long before your separation date arrives
- 2 Get as much education and training as possible
- 3 Get experience in your field—even if you have to volunteer
- 4 Join professional organizations and "learn the language"
- 5 Network!
- 6 Polish your résumé, research your field, and practice for interviews
- 7 Don't undersell yourself!

TALK TO A CAREER COUNSELOR. Schedule a phone, e-mail, or in-person consultation with a Career Services professional. Visit www.umuc.edu/career today!

3 CONNECTING UMUC ALUMNI EVERYWHERE

Thursday, June 26, 2008

6:30–8:30 p.m.

Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Awards Reception
UMUC Inn and Conference Center, Chesapeake Room

Join **UMUConnect.org**—a Secure Online Community with a searchable alumni directory, discussion forums, links for professional networking, and information about upcoming events.

4 UMUC—A LEADING RESOURCE FOR CORPORATE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Don't keep UMUC a secret. Share your UMUC experience with your colleagues, and let them know about the great educational opportunities available—flexible schedules, exemplary student services, and an affordable and high-quality education from a respected institution. Does your company have specific educational and training needs? UMUC can work directly with your corporation's human resources professionals to tailor programs to meet your company's goals. For more information, visit www.umuc.edu/corporate.

5 BENEFITS

The Alumni Association's mission is to connect alumni to the university and to each other. We're always seeking ways to increase benefits and services available to our members.



JOIN TODAY!

Visit www.umuconnect.org or call 800-888-UMUC ext. 5125

Have you moved? Married . . . or remarried? Started a new job? Won an award? Share your good news with the UMUC community.

Complete the form below and return it today—or visit www.umuconnect.org and link to the power of the UMUC alumni network. Use the "Class Notes" section to update your information, and **you just might see your name in a future issue of *Achiever* magazine.** (Entries may be edited for length and style.)

- ☐ **Yes, I want to stay connected** and receive e-mail notices of alumni benefits, services, and future events. Add my contact information to the Alumni Association's mailing list.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

E-MAIL ADDRESS

- ☐ No, I do not want to stay connected. Do not add my contact information to your mailing list.

ALUMNI INFORMATION FORM

NAME GRADUATION YEAR

NAME USED WHILE ENROLLED AT UMUC (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

MAJOR/PRIMARY SPECIALIZATION

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP + 4

COUNTRY

HOME PHONE

HOME E-MAIL

COMPANY NAME

POSITION/TITLE

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP + 4

WORK PHONE

WORK FAX

WORK E-MAIL

I prefer to receive mail at (circle one): HOME WORK

MY NEWS:

Mailing address: **UMUC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, 3501 University Boulevard East, Adelphi, MD 20783-8011**



University of Maryland University College

3501 University Boulevard East
Adelphi, MD 20783-8080 USA
800-888-UMUC(8683) ■ www.umuc.edu

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLLEGE PARK, MD
PERMIT #4



Plan NOW to attend the **4th Annual United States— China Distance Education Forum**

Mega Trends and Innovation in Distance Education
for Sustainable Growth: Pedagogy, Technology,
Services, and Partnerships

JUNE 29—JULY 2, 2008

UMUC Inn and Conference Center by Marriott
Adelphi, Maryland

**For more information or to register,
visit www.umuc.edu/uschina.**

**Register by April 30, 2008,
and qualify for a \$40 discount.**

Don't wait; register today!